



# FARM NEWS

AUG 24 1951  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SERIAL RECORD

September 2, 1949

PRICE SUPPORTS HELP FARMERS APPROACH 'PARITY', SAYS BRANNAN: A basic reason for price-support programs is to give the farmer greater independence in choosing the time and the price at which he is willing to sell, Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan recently stated at a Congressional Committee hearing.

"Industry has cut production to maintain price, while the farmer traditionally has gone on producing while his prices went farther and farther down out of line with industrial prices," the Secretary said.

"Between 1929 and the depression low of the early 1930's, here is what happened in certain industries: Agricultural implements - prices declined 14 percent, payrolls declined 83 percent; iron and steel - price went down 16 percent, payrolls went down 75 percent; cement - prices went down 13, payrolls, 72; aluminum - prices went down 21 percent, payrolls 69.

"At that same time, farm prices went down by two-thirds, and in self-protection many farmers increased their crop acreages.

"From 1932 to 1938 industrial production averaged about 25 percent below that of 1929 while farm production averaged approximately the same as in 1929 .. Since the end of 1947 the prices of farm machinery have gone up 20 percent and other farm equipment and supplies have gone up nearly 10 percent. But prices received by farmers for their commodities have dropped 18 percent....

"As an offset to the economic power which is used to cut production and maintain the prices of goods sold to farmers, we must maintain the strongest possible farm price support program and provide the means for storing supplies which are not currently needed and for shifting gradually from production of commodities faced with declining demand to others where consumption can be expanded...."

\*\*\*\*\*

KNOW YOUR ACP COMMITTEEMEN: Whether it's a gully or a Government loan on your (crop), a dam for livestock water, or tree plantings, "See Your ACP Committee" has become a slogan.

According to \_\_\_\_\_, chairman of the \_\_\_\_\_ county Agricultural Conservation Committee, there are more than three thousand of these county committees in the United States. There is one in every agricultural county in the country. In addition there are some 84 thousand community committeemen.

In \_\_\_\_\_ county there are three county committeemen and \_\_\_\_\_ community committeemen. Each year elections are held and the farmers of each community have an opportunity to "put in" the farmers they want to serve as community committeemen. At the same time delegates are elected to attend a county convention where the county committee is elected.

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, the present chairman of the \_\_\_\_\_ county Agricultural Conservation (ACP) Committee, owns and operates a \_\_\_\_\_ acre farm located at \_\_\_\_\_.

(Note: Add details about his farm: crops, how long on it, and other details -- same for other members and alternates.)

These are the farmer-committeemen to see about conservation practices, crop loans, price supports, crop insurance, (add other programs), and the many other phases of PMA service to the farmers of \_\_\_\_\_ county.

The county office is located at \_\_\_\_\_.

\*\*\*\*\*

TRIGG CITES NEED FOR BETTER POTATO PROGRAM: Government potato price-support programs have been costing too much,

Ralph S. Trigg, Administrator of the Production and Marketing Administration, recently reminded Aroostook County, Maine, potato producers.

"It is perfectly clear that we do not yet have the answer for our basic problems," Mr. Trigg said. "We simply cannot go on indefinitely with any program which results in excessive waste, and which costs the taxpayers of the country too much."

In his talk, Mr. Trigg said that less than half of the 1948 Maine potato crop went to normal markets and the government provided the market outlet for the rest. Considering the increasing difficulty and cost of finding diversion uses for these potatoes makes it perfectly obvious, he said, that the sound answer does not lie in unlimited purchases to support the market. "We need a much better approach, and the authorization to develop such an approach, if we are to avoid a program collapse which could threaten the whole farm price-support structure."

Mr. Trigg pointed out that increases in per acre yields in Maine - where total production has tripled in the last 25 years - have been accompanied by increases in other areas. At the same time, per capita potato consumption in the United States has dropped from 153 pounds in 1920 to 108 pounds in 1948.

"When faced with farm surpluses, it is natural to think of widening the markets - trying to sell more of the crop," Mr. Trigg said. "Producers must show initiative in holding their fair share of the total food market. And when all possible has been done on this front, and marketing efficiency has been improved, they must be ready and willing to make necessary adjustments to prevent wasteful overproduction..."

"Our programs must always give consumers and taxpayers their money's worth. This means that we must aim at an economy of abundance - an abundance of food and other farm products to meet consumers' needs at fair prices, at the same time protecting the farmer against ruinously low prices."

\*\*\*\*\*

MORE TURKEYS AHEAD THIS YEAR: Farmers are raising more than 41 million turkeys this year, 29 percent more than last year, according to a Department of Agriculture estimate. This would be the country's second largest crop; the record was 44 million birds in 1945.

The last 3 years have shown sharp decreases in the size of the turkey crop, which in 1948 resulted in the highest prices of record. The average price received by

farmers for the 1948 season was 47 cents per pound. Because prices were on an upward trend, growers last year tended to hold back on marketings, and only 19.5 percent of the crop was sold in October or earlier.

This year, growers have indicated their intention of marketing about 25.7 percent of their crop during the early period. Since prices have trended downward, however, early marketings may possibly exceed intentions. Turkey growers will have their 1949 crop protected by a program to support prices at a national average of about 31 cents a pound.

\*\*\*\*\*

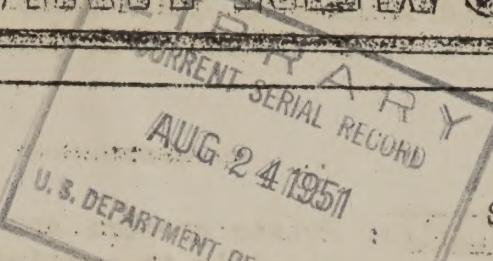
Always adapt our suggested news releases to fit the situation in your county, eliminate those not particularly of interest to farmers in your area, and add local items of interest.





# A FARM NEWS

1956  
A2 Ag 827  
Copy 2



September 9, 1949

CONSERVATION IS JOB FOR EVERYBODY, SAYS BRANNAN: Conservation is one of the tools which can help us reach the goal of agricultural abundance -- efficiently produced, and distributed at prices fair to consumers and producers alike, Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan stated, recently.

"I consider it so vital, so much a part of any realistic farm program," The Secretary said, "that in my recommendations to Congress not so long ago I urged the conditioning of price supports, wherever possible, upon observance of conservation and good land use practices. To me, it just doesn't seem to be common sense to give as much support to the farmer who abuses his land as may be earned by the farmer who conserves it...."

"We dare not stop or slow down in our conservation efforts. Nor is there any reason for us to delay, within the limits of available facilities. We have a program through which technical assistance is provided directly to farmers in soil conservation districts; and we have a program through which public funds are provided to pay part of the cost of work done by farmers to protect or improve their soil and water resources.

"But it would be a mistake to conclude that conservation is a job only for farmers with the help of Government.

"To get the conservation job done, properly and in time, is going to take the continued best efforts and teamwork of everybody who has anything at all to contribute to the task -- farmers, bankers, machinery concerns, agricultural agencies and farm organizations, educators, press and radio, and many other interests... This cooperative conservation support is entirely proper, because the whole public interest is involved.

"None of us in the Nation can afford wasteful agricultural production or soil destruction. We are all affected by such waste... In the last analysis, every man, woman, and child depends for life on the fertility of the land. And the continuing fertility of the land, in turn, depends upon a great many economic and social factors.....

"I believe that the connection between farm prices and conservation should be recognized in our price-support programs. For when farm prices collapse and the farmer faces a choice between starving his family or abusing his land, there isn't much doubt which course he will choose.....

"The great progress that has been made in the practicing of soil conservation farming... is highly gratifying. But... the biggest part of the job still remains to be done -- and just being for conservation, or attending conservation field days, isn't going to get that job finished. We need, we must have, continued positive, undelayed action.

"The national and world situations today demand that we take care of our basic land resources. I am simply drawing upon the lessons of history when I say that our Nation will not long be a world leader if it permits those resources to deteriorate too far."

\*\*\*\*\*

POTATO LOANS MADE AVAILABLE: Potato growers and dealers who are certified as eligible to participate in 1949 potato price-support operations may obtain loans on their storage potatoes, according to J. E. Kasper, chairman of the State Production and Marketing Administration Committee. These loans have been made available in order to provide harvest time financing and to encourage orderly marketing of the late crop.

Producer eligibility certificates include a provision that the producer must have planted within his acreage goal, and dealer eligibility provides for payment of at least support prices for eligible potatoes purchased from eligible producers. Eligible potatoes must be U. S. No. 2, 1-7/8 inches minimum diameter, or better and they must be suitable for storage and properly stored in approved permanent storage.

Participation in the loan program will be wholly voluntary and will not affect eligibility for other price support.

Loan rates in North Dakota will be 55 cents per hundredweight of potatoes, Mr. Kasper explained. Borrowers must agree to repay loans fully either in cash or from the net proceeds from commercial sales of loan potatoes or from sales of any potatoes to the Commodity Credit Corporation, until the indebtedness is satisfied.

Borrowers selling potatoes to CCC will receive the full support price for the month in which the potatoes are sold. Support prices in North Dakota range from \$1.20 per hundredweight in September to \$1.85 in March and April.

Applications for loans will be accepted at County Agricultural Conservation Committee offices between September 15 and December 15. The loans will mature on demand but not later than April 30, 1950.

\*\*\*\*\*

FARMERS MUST REPORT PURCHASE AGREEMENT CORN DECISION BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30: Producers who entered into purchase agreements with the Commodity Credit Corporation on corn from their 1948 crop are reminded by the county Agricultural Conservation Committee that they must, during the month of September, notify the committee of their intentions for disposal of the corn.

\_\_\_\_\_ committee chairman points out that a grower has three alternatives:  
(1) He may convert his purchase agreement into a price-support loan to mature July 31, 1950 provided his corn meets CCC quality requirements and he has adequate storage. If the corn is delivered to CCC at maturity of the loan, he will earn a storage payment of 10 cents per bushel. (2) He may deliver corn of approved quality and moisture content to CCC at the support price as directed by the county committee. (3) He may keep the corn for his own use or for sale on the open market.

Because of the large volume of "price-support corn" to be handled this year, the county committee is urging holders of purchase agreements to make their decision as early as possible.

"We hope that most growers will decide to place at least part of their purchase agreement corn under loan for the extended period," \_\_\_\_\_ states. "But we must make arrangements right away for shipment or storage of corn that will be delivered to CCC. If deliveries are to follow an orderly pattern, we must have an accurate knowledge of how much will be delivered."

The chairman points out that although growers must decide during September if they will deliver their corn to CCC, they have until October 31 to make the actual conversion from purchase agreement to loan.

\*\*\*\*\*

FARMER RESPONSIBILITY IN ACP ADMINISTRATION: The Agricultural Conservation Program is available to all farmers of North Dakota to assist in carrying out needed conservation on the individual farms of the State. But no farmer is required to use the program. Assistance has been provided because the national welfare depends so much on how well the land will produce. Under the program farmer and government share the cost of carrying out the approved conservation practices.

J. E. Kasper, chairman of the North Dakota State PMA Committee, in making this statement said he wanted to emphasize that participation in the program is voluntary and that the program is available to all farmers to use in meeting the conservation problems on their farms.

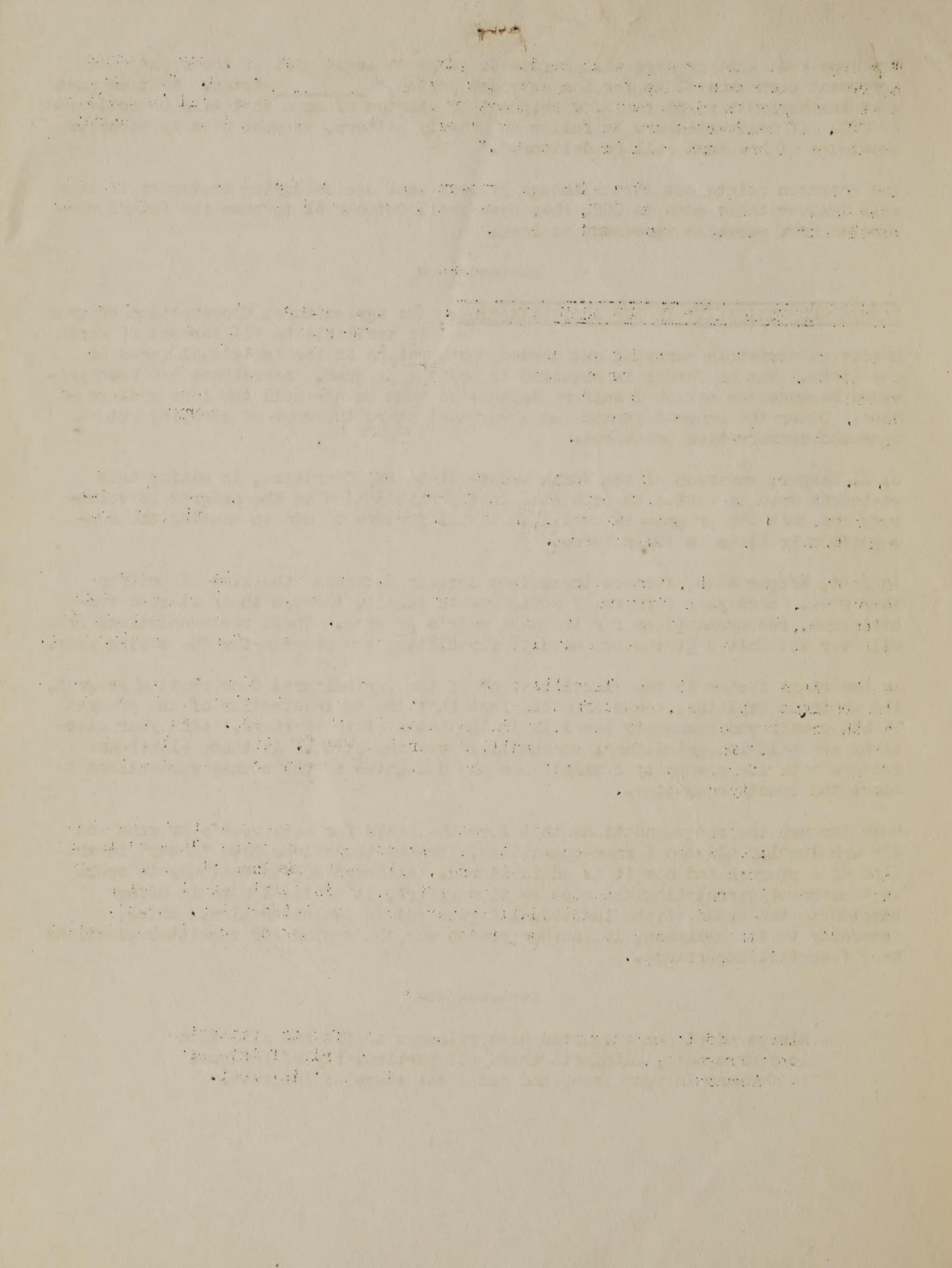
In fact, Kasper said, farmers themselves largely determine the kind of program they have. Each year farmers of North Dakota submit, through their elected committeemen, recommendations for the next year's program. These recommendations from all over the United States are used in formulating the program for the coming year.

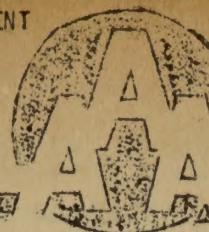
An important factor in the "localization" of the Agricultural Conservation Program, the chairman explains, comes from the fact that the administration of the program at the county and community level is in the hands of the farmers. Each year elections are held in agricultural communities over the State. At these elections farmers vote for community committeemen and delegates to the county conventions to elect the county committee.

Both through the recommendations that form the basis for each year's program and through locally elected farmer-committees, farmers themselves have "a say" in the kind of a program and how it is administered. Although ACP is national in scope as a means of correlating the conservation effort, it is local both in being adapted to the needs of the individual farmer and in administration. Which, according to the chairman, is another reason why the coming ACP committee elections are of special importance.

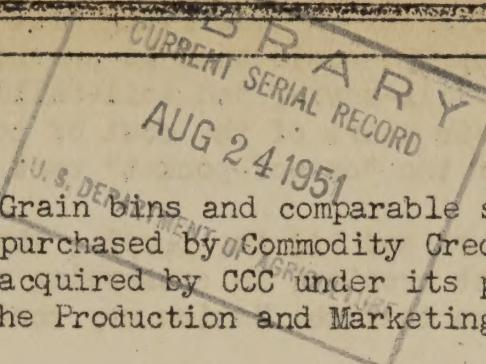
\*\*\*\*\*

Always adapt our suggested news releases to fit the situation in your county, eliminate those not particularly of interest to farmers in your area, and add local items of interest.



1,956  
A2Ag 826  
Copy

# AA FARM NEWS



September 16, 1949

**CCC BINS ONLY FOR CCC GRAIN:** Grain bins and comparable storage structures now being purchased by Commodity Credit Corporation are to be used only to house 1948 crops acquired by CCC under its price support programs, the North Dakota State Office of the Production and Marketing Administration pointed out today.

"None of this storage space will be available this year to house new-crop grain, nor old stocks which the farmer himself carries over into the new crop year under the resealing program or otherwise," J. E. Kasper State PMA Committee Chairman emphasizes.

"Adequate on-the-farm storage remains the primary objective of the entire storage program and our committee is urging farmers to buy or build needed additional storage promptly," the chairman states. "Without adequate storage on farms, producers will not be able to handle the marketing of their crops in an orderly manner, nor can they take full advantage of price-support programs."

In its procurement program, CCC has been able to contract for approximately 260 million bushels of bin-type and comparable grain storage to be erected mostly in producing areas under the supervision of county Agricultural Conservation Committees. CCC already owns 45 million bushels of similar storage.

Because more than 555 million bushels of 1948-crop corn were placed under price supporting loans or purchase agreements, the bulk of the new storage will be used for corn. Through the cooperation of growers in "resealing" a substantial amount of the 1948 price support corn for an extended loan period, it is expected that the new storage plus the small amount of available public storage will take care of the old-crop carryover, the chairman says.

\*\*\*\*\*

**1950 ACP TO AID IN SOLVING CONSERVATION PROBLEMS:** Any farmer of \_\_\_\_\_ county who has trouble holding the topsoil on his farm or in keeping up the fertility of his land may find that the Agricultural Conservation Program provides the assistance necessary to help solve the problem.

\_\_\_\_\_, chairman of the \_\_\_\_\_ county Agricultural Conservation Committee, says the 1950 Agricultural Conservation Program will be (is) available soon. The 1950 program provides additional funds for use in assisting farmers in conserving the Nation's soil and water resources. The limit on the amount of assistance to an individual farmer has been increased from the \$750 for 1949 to \$2500 under the 1950 program.

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ said that few farmers ever receive assistance amounting to \$2500 and that most farmers cooperating in the program receive less than \$100. But this small amount of assistance often makes it possible for a farmer to carry out the conservation practices which keep his farm from going to pieces, and which start it on the way to becoming a better and more productive farm.

Because of the national interest in conserving soil and water as the source of the Nation's food and fiber supply, assistance is provided under ACP to farmers who cooperate in carrying out soil-saving and soil-building practices. Cooperating farmers have to put up their share of the cost of conserving practices. The average is about 50 percent of the "out-of-pocket" cost of the practice.

Through this program farmers and all the people, through the government, share in protecting the soil against erosion, in conserving water, and in building up the productivity of the land so that the Nation may continue to enjoy a balanced abundant production.

In this way, farmers are helping to strengthen the Nation and protect the welfare of its people, as well as to make their own life on the farm more secure, \_\_\_\_\_ said.

\*\*\*\*\*

DIVERTED ACRES - GAIN OR LOSS? Your diverted acres may be an asset or a liability depending on their use, \_\_\_\_\_, chairman of the Agricultural Conservation Committee, told farmers of \_\_\_\_\_ county today.

He explained that with surpluses accumulating in a number of major farm crops, farmers are faced with the problem of adjusting production to consumer needs and market demands. As a means of orderly adjustment, allotments have been provided. An allotment is the individual farmer's share of the national market.

But if the land taken out of wheat or cotton or corn - or other crops for which there may be allotments - is left idle and unprotected against wind and water erosion, conservation gains of the past are reduced and an opportunity to build for the future is lost.

Also, if the poorer land is left out of production and additional attention in the form of better care and greater use of fertilizers is given to the crops on the allotted acreage, the purpose of the allotment will be defeated. Surpluses will not be reduced, and additional acreage reductions will be needed.

On the other hand, if the diverted acres are seeded to grass and legumes, either as temporary or permanent pasture, farmers will benefit from the additional income, and the consumers of the country will have available more food and a better balanced diet.

But more important than the temporary gains will be the reserves for future abundant production. With population in the United States increasing at the rate of about 2 million a year, it may not be too long before these reserves will be needed to feed 170 instead of 148 million people.

What farmers do with their diverted acres may well be the turning point in national welfare. And the turn may be either in the direction of improved living standards or toward wasted land and poorer living conditions.

\*\*\*\*\*

FARM GRAIN STORAGE SUBJECT OF NEW USDA BULLETINS: Farmers who are planning new on-the-farm storage for corn or small grains will find one or both of two new publications of the U. S. Department of Agriculture particularly helpful, says the county office of the Agricultural Conservation Association.

The two are: "Storage of Small Grains and Shelled Corn on the Farm," Farmers' Bulletin No. 2009; and "Storage of Ear Corn on the Farm," Farmers' Bulletin No. 2010. Both are available on request from the office of the County Extension Agent.

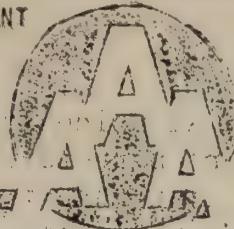
The new bulletins are modernized versions of earlier farm storage publications of the Department and include information on the use of the most up-to-date grain handling equipment. All phases of the storage operation are dealt with, including bin construction, methods of conditioning damp grain, and protection of farm-stored grain from damage by insects and rodents.

Also included are lists of available plans for storage structures.

\*\*\*\*\*

Always adapt our suggested news releases to fit the situation in your county, eliminate those not particularly of interest to farmers in your area, and add local items of interest.





# FARM NEWS

1956  
A2 Ag 327  
C.P. 2

AUG 24 1951  
U.S. GOVERNMENT

September 23, 1949

**FARMERS URGED TO REPORT DETERIORATING CHOPS:** To protect themselves from loss in settlement value, farmers are advised to report immediately to the County Agricultural Conservation Committee when any commodity under price-supporting loan is in danger of going out of condition.

"Since the farmer is responsible for maintaining the grade and quality of the commodity under loan, his eventual return depends upon the condition at the time of delivery to the Commodity Credit Corporation," \_\_\_\_\_, Committee Chairman, points out.

Where it is found that a commodity in danger of going out of condition cannot be satisfactorily conditioned, the County Committee is authorized to call for immediate shipping instructions from CCC.

"To protect the farmer, samples will be taken at the time shipping instructions are requested, if shipping instructions cannot be furnished in time to prevent serious damage to the commodity," \_\_\_\_\_ says. "Final settlement with the producer will then be made for the quantity delivered, based on the grade established from these samples."

If a producer fails to notify the county committee before a commodity has deteriorated to such an extent that it will fall below any grade for which loan or settlement values have been established, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ said that the settlement value will be the support rate for the grade and quality of the commodity placed under loan, less the difference between (1) the market price for this grade and quality and (2) the market price of the commodity delivered, as determined by CCC.

The same procedure for determining settlement value of off-grade commodities may be applied to purchase agreements when authority to accept deliveries is given by CCC.

\*\*\*\*\*

**HOG PRICE SUPPORT METHOD CHANGED:** If hog price-support operations are required this fall and winter, they will be conducted so that the prices farmers receive will average out the national support price, J. E. Kasper, Chairman of the State Production and Marketing Administration Committee, said today in calling attention to a recent announcement by the Department of Agriculture. Previously, the program called for maintaining prices at weekly support levels for individual markets.

The national average support level for September is \$17.70 per hundred pounds. Hog prices will be supported at 90 percent of parity through March 31, 1950, as announced earlier.

In addition to the monthly support levels, figures based on these levels will be set for each week for use as guides for support operations. These weekly guides will not be considered as specific support levels. They will, however, show season-

al trends in the support and will approximate the level at which average prices of barrows and gilts must be maintained at seven mid-western markets so that farm prices will average out to the national support price. The markets are Chicago, St. Louis National Stock Yards, South St. Paul, Sioux City, Omaha, Kansas City, and South St. Joseph.

Guides for the seven-market average in September are \$18.50 per hundred pounds until September 24 and \$18.25 for the rest of the month. Weekly guides will drop seasonally about 40 cents per hundred pounds each week during October and November. The monthly support level and weekly guides for the October-March period will be announced about October 1, based on the September 15 parity price for hogs.

On August 15, the average prices received by farmers for their hogs was \$19.40 per hundred pounds -- above the support level. If support for hog prices should become necessary, however, the method used will be purchases of pork and pork products from packers operating under Federal inspection. Pork produced by other slaughterers cannot be shipped across State lines or exported from the United States.

\*\*\*\*\*

CCC GRAIN BINS ON THE WAY: Nearly 60,000 bin-type and comparable grain storage structures will dot the landscape in the rural areas of the United States this winter, and every one is expected to be filled to the brim with grain and other storable crops acquired by the Commodity Credit Corporation under price-supporting operations.

About 625 of the structures with a capacity of around 2,484,000 bushels are to be erected in North Dakota to receive the flow of corn that producers are turning over to CCC in satisfaction of the commodity loans and purchase agreements on their 1948 crop, the State Production and Marketing Administration Committee said today. Some are already being erected and filled. The process is expected to continue until late fall.

Today's release by the State PMA Committee is based on an announcement by CCC on September 15 that contracts had been awarded to suppliers for storage structures with a total capacity of 280,316,840 bushels. With the 45 million bushels of similar storage already owned by CCC, it is expected that currently known needs will substantially be met.

"We have been asked to maintain a close check of storage developments and report immediately to CCC if it appears that additional capacity will be required," says J. E. Kasper, State PMA Committee Chairman. "CCC is prepared, from offers now on file, to make such additional purchases as may be necessary to complete the requirements in individual states." The chairman again emphasized the fact that the new storage being bought by CCC is to be used only for grains acquired by it in fulfilling its price-supporting obligations, and none will be available for storage of the new crop.

"The only realistic answer to our storage problem is the acquisition by farmers of adequate on-the-farm storage structures," the chairman states. "This is even more true in the case of corn than for other crops because such a small part of the corn crop ordinarily goes to the cash market. We believe that every farmer should have sufficient storage for at least one year's crop."

\*\*\*\*\*

DIVERTED ACRES AND ROTATIONS: The necessity of diverting some of the land which has been in (allotment crop or crops) to comply with acreage allotments provides the farmers of North Dakota with a real opportunity to improve their rotations, according to J. E. Kasper, State Production and Marketing Administration Chairman.

Neglect of good rotations was encouraged by the demands of war and the necessity for feeding starving people in other countries after the war. Instead of depending on sound rotation practices, farmers resorted to heavier use of commercial fertilizers. These have been effective in increasing yields and have helped to get record production.

But on too many farms this continuous cropping of the land -- growing the same crop year after year on the same land -- is depleting the humus. The vegetable matter in the land that helps to hold the soil particles together is being lost. The land is becoming a greater erosion hazard each year.

The State Chairman points out that too often this danger is hardly realized until a heavy rain carries away several inches of topsoil, and the land is left torn to pieces with gullies.

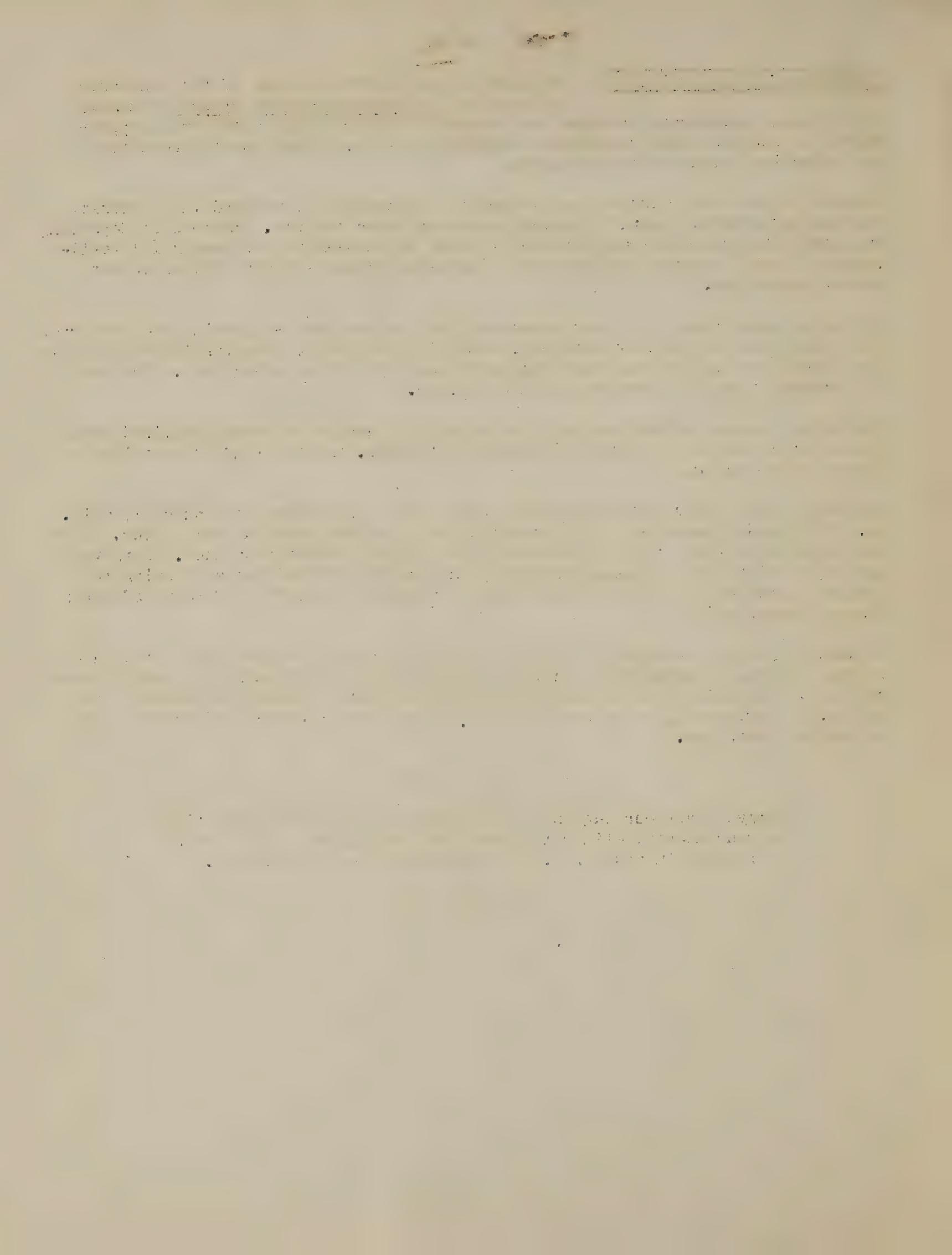
But where grass and legumes are grown on the land a few years, the humus is built up. The plowing under of a good growth of green manure does the same thing. Often the grass and legumes may be pastured and an income derived from them. With too much of the land in continuous cropping, the use of diverted acres to bring the farming operation more into balance will be a good thing for the farmers of North Dakota, Kasper said.

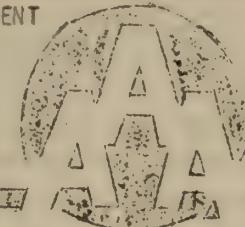
He urged farmers to consider this phase of the allotment program and to take advantage of this opportunity to improve their farming operation with a more balanced rotation. Not only will the land be in good use, but the whole farm will be improved. Reserves will be stored in the soil for future production and not wasted on surplus crops now.

\*\*\*\*\*

Always adapt our suggested news releases to fit the situation in your county, eliminate those not particularly of interest to farmers in your area, and add local items of interest.

\*\*\*\*\*



1956  
A249727  
2pp.

## FARM NEWS

LIBRARY  
FARM NEWS  
AUG 24 1949  
SERIAL NUMBER

October 7, 1949

SOD SAVES SOIL: There just isn't anything better than a good sod to keep soil from washing or blowing away, says \_\_\_\_\_, chairman of the \_\_\_\_\_ county Agricultural Conservation Committee. The roots hold the soil particles together and soak up moisture. The vegetative cover protects the soil from the bombardment of rain drops, holds back the water so that more of it can soak into the soil, and provides a protective screen for loosened soil particles.

Tests indicate that on sloping land where from 25 to 30 tons of top-soil per acre is washed away on land in row crops, less than a half a ton is lost from land protected by sod. It is for this reason, the chairman points out, that some sloping land should be kept in sod all or most of the time.

Sod is also one of the best protections for waterways. If accumulated water can be emptied out onto a good sod waterway, there is little danger of starting a gully.

Waterways may be sodded by seeding or by bringing in sod to the location. To protect the waterways, plows and other tillage tools should be lifted when crossing the waterway. Since the Agricultural Conservation Program provides assistance to establish and maintain sod, the chairman urges all farmers to check on locally approved practices at the county ACP office at \_\_\_\_\_.

\*\*\*\*\*

1950 ACP PROVIDES FOR POOLING AGREEMENTS: Any group of \_\_\_\_\_ county farmers faced with a common conservation problem may combine efforts in a pooling agreement under the 1950 Agricultural Conservation Program.

\_\_\_\_\_, chairman of the county Agricultural Conservation Committee, advises that this is not a new provision in the program but that it would be emphasized more than ever in 1950, because so many conservation problems can be met only by the joint action of neighboring farmers.

Such a project, he explains, may be the digging of a drain which will improve several farms, the eradication of perennial weeds on adjacent farms or other similar enterprises.

"Although assistance under the ACP usually is provided to help individual farmers carry out conservation practices on their own farms, under the pooling agreement, this assistance -- all or part -- may be used in meeting a conservation problem which is common to a number of farmers," says the chairman.

Under this provision, as for the individual farmer, the assistance provided under ACP will average about half or less of the cost of the project, the chairman explains. This means the cooperating farmers are required to put up their share of the cost.

Since all such practices must be approved by the county ACA Committee before assistance can be approved, any group of farmers planning conservation under a pooling agreement in 1950 should talk over their plans with the county committee before beginning work on the project. Certain specifications must be met to qualify for assistance, and these should be understood before work is begun.

\*\*\*\*\*

BALANCED GRAZING PAYS: Three points to check in good range management were outlined here today by \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman of the county Agricultural Conservation Committee.

First: Enough watering places and not too far apart. This allows for more even grazing of the range. Livestock will not be forced to trample out the vegetation around a few "far-between" water holes.

Second: Moderate grazing. Undergrazing is safer and more profitable than overgrazing. If the palatable grasses are to be maintained on the range, they must be allowed to store plant food in the roots. Safe grazing allows about half the top growth to go ungrazed. A good covering of grass protects the soil from erosion and checks run-off. This provides one of the best means of flood control.

Third: Controlled grazing. This includes proper spacing of salt boxes or blocks. \_\_\_\_\_ said that salt should be located about midway between watering places. Too early grazing should be avoided. Fences may be necessary to obtain uniform grazing over the whole range. — to avoid too heavy grazing in one section and undergrazing in another.

The chairman points out that numerous experiments indicate that the greatest profit comes from moderate rather than excessive grazing. But there always is the temptation to put "just a few more" and this usually results in damage to the range and a smaller profit from the enterprise. "Three head where you want to put four is a pretty good rule to go by," says the chairman.

\*\*\*\*\*

PURCHASE AGREEMENTS AVAILABLE FOR CERTAIN CROPS: Farmers in \_\_\_\_\_ county who grow flaxseed, wheat or barley can obtain Government price protection through two methods, \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman of the County Agricultural Conservation Committee, points out. Purchase agreements as well as commodity loans are offered farmers as a means of supporting the price of the 1949 flaxseed, wheat and barley crops.

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ says that both methods of price support are also available in \_\_\_\_\_ county for 1949 crops of oats, rye and corn.

Both loans and purchase agreements may be obtained at the county ACA office. The program closing date is January 31, 1950 except for corn which is May 31, 1950.

As of (Date), farmers in the county had put a total of \_\_\_\_\_ bushels of grains under Government loans and \_\_\_\_\_ bushels under purchase agreements. Figures for the Nation as of August 31 are 185 million bushels of wheat, barley, oats, rye, and grain sorghums under loan and 3.4 million bushels under purchase agreements.

The chairman explains that under purchase agreements, the producer states the maximum quantity of the commodity upon which he wishes an option to deliver to the Commodity Credit Corporation near the end of the price-support period. The producer may then at any time sell his crop on the market at the market price, or at the designated time he may deliver to CCC any amount of his crop up to the stated maximum at the price-support figure. Producers desiring to deliver purchase-agreement grain to CCC must declare their intention during the 30 days before maturity of the crop loans. The date of maturity for 1949-crop  
\_\_\_\_\_ is (Date).

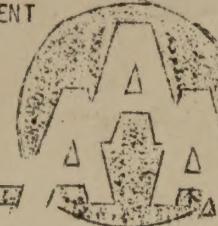
Price-support rates per bushel for \_\_\_\_\_ and other 1949 grain crops in \_\_\_\_\_ county are: (list crops and rates).

\*\*\*\*\*

Always adapt our suggested news releases to fit the situation in your county, eliminate those not particularly of interest to farmers in your area, and add local items of interest.



Reserve

1-956  
42 Ag 827

## FARM NEWS

~~CURRENT SERIAL RECORD~~  
LIBRARY  
AUG 24 1949

October 21, 1949

**SUBSIDIES OLD STORY, SAYS BRANNAN:** Speaking on price supports, Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan recently pointed out that many businesses have received price protection for a long time, on the assumption that these benefits were in the public interest.

"From the very early days of our Nation," the Secretary said, "we have had protective tariffs -- for the benefit of industry. We have had airmail contracts -- to subsidize aviation. We have special concessions in our postal regulations -- for the benefit of those engaged in the publishing business."

"The justification for all of these subsidies is that they are intended to serve the whole American people. But I doubt very much if any subsidy gives as much to the entire American people per dollar of cost as we all have derived from the agricultural price support programs of the past and that we can derive from an improved price stabilization program in the future."

"The protection of the farmer's income also protects indirectly the income of industry and the wages of labor. . . .there is hardly a single place of business that does not prosper when the farmer prospers. . . .there is no one. . . .who is not affected to a marked degree by the level of farm purchasing power."

\*\*\*\*\*

**CONSERVATION -- FOUNDATION OF AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS:** The fact that farmers of this country are producing 35 to 40 percent more than they did before World War II and that per-acre yields are 50 percent more than the average for the Twenties is not an accident. More effective and wider use of soil and water conservation practices, favorable growing weather, the use of hybrid seed, improved strains, the development of more effective chemicals to control insects and diseases and improved machinery have all played a part. And as a result, despite our increased population, per capita consumption in 1948 was 12 percent greater than in the 1935-39 period, says \_\_\_\_\_, chairman of the \_\_\_\_\_ County PMA Committee.

While many factors entered into this increased production, the foundation upon which it rests is conservation, says the chairman. The widespread application of conservation practices to the individual farms of the country has made possible favorable results from improved strains, chemicals and more efficient and effective machinery. Without conservation the land would not have responded to improved techniques.

And in conservation, the chairman points out, the Agricultural Conservation Program has played a vital part by providing assistance to individual farmers to encourage and make possible the use of approved conservation practices. Administered by elected farmer-committees, the program has been effective in bringing recommended conservation practices to the nation's farms in a minimum of time. More than half the farmers in the country are now following conservation practices under the Agricultural Conservation Program.

\*\*\*\*\*

SHEEP AND LAMB SITUATION OUTLINED: In 1867, the first year of annual records in the United States, there were more sheep than people — 46.3 million sheep, and around 38 million people. Now, according to a recent Department of Agriculture report, there is one sheep per 5 persons.

The 32 million head of sheep and lambs on farms and ranches as of January 1, 1949, was a record low. The number also represented a reduction of 43 percent from the record high of 56.2 million in 1942, the largest reduction for any class of live-stock in a 7-year period.

The report points out that partial cause of the big decline in sheep numbers after 1942 was a shortage of skilled labor. Opportunities in other farming and in industry lured many sheep herders from their lonesome and often low-paying occupation. It is likely that sheep herders will remain comparatively scarce except in times of economic depression.

The history of the migration of the sheep-raising industry was roughly similar to that of the receding frontier, as sheep shared with cattle in varying proportion each new farming and range area that was opened up. Since there are no more frontiers, the future of sheep raising will depend in large measure on how effectively sheep can compete with other enterprises for land and labor in established farming and ranching areas.

Sheep ranching requires many acres of land for even the smaller flocks. Sheep also demand considerable care for protection against predatory animals, shearing, lambing, dipping, and other services.

This year, flocks are being reduced less than last year, and numbers may be substantially the same at the end of 1949 as at the beginning. Future levels of sheep numbers cannot be foretold accurately. Any improvement in comparative costs or returns, however, would encourage expanded numbers.

\*\*\*\*\*

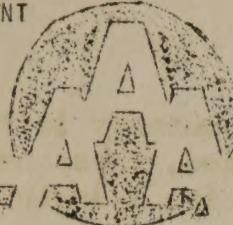
PMA COMMUNITY ELECTIONS - WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 14: Election of community committee men in the Production and Marketing Administration will take place in all communities in North Dakota during the week starting November 14, 1949. In these elections, three regular members and two alternate members of each community committee will be elected, and in addition, a delegate and an alternate delegate to the county convention will be elected. At the county convention, the delegates will assemble and elect the county committee to administer the programs of the Production and Marketing Administration during the calendar year 1950.

Elections this year will be held by mail. Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters by the county committee and may be returned to the county committee either by mail or by delivery to the county PMA office.

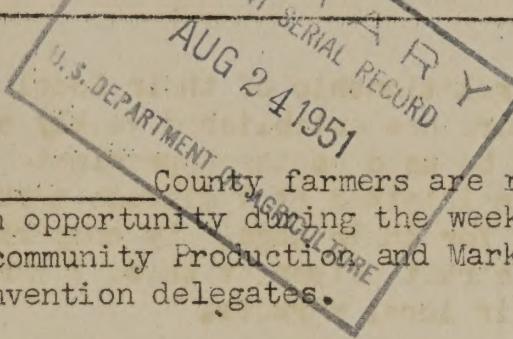
Before election week a meeting or caucus will be held in each community for the purpose of nominating candidates to appear on the ballot.

Reserve

1. 956  
42 Ag 827



# A FARM NEWS



October 28, 1949

PMA COMMUNITY ELECTIONS: County farmers are reminded that they will have an opportunity during the week starting November 14, 1949 to cast their ballots for community Production and Marketing Administration farmer-committeemen and county convention delegates.

County PMA Committee Chairman explains that the ballots will be mailed to all known eligible voters in the county, and they may either be mailed to the County Office at (address) or deposited there by the voters in person.

"Any person who does not receive a ballot in the mail and believes that he is eligible to vote should write, call or stop at the County Office", the Chairman says.

Any person is eligible to vote or hold office who is an owner, operator, tenant, or share cropper on a farm that is participating in any program administered during the current calendar year through County and Community Production and Marketing Administration Committees.

In each community nominees have been selected at a caucus meeting to which all farmers were invited. The names of nominees will appear on the ballots. The ballots must be returned to the County Office not later than November 18 in order to be sure of being counted in the election.

Secretary of Agriculture, Charles F. Brannan, has stressed the need for farmers to be on their guard to keep their committees strong. "ONLY THE MOST REPRESENTATIVE FARMERS CAN ADEQUATELY DO THE JOB", he states, "AND IT IS UP TO FARMERS TO SEE THAT SUCH MEN ARE CHOSEN." Pointing to the problems that must be faced in adjusting from war emergencies, the Secretary emphasizes the heavy responsibilities that farmer committeemen must assume. "Fortunately, because the farmer committee system is so well established, agriculture is prepared to enter the period ahead with confidence."

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, County PMA Chairman points out that heavy participation of farmers in committeemen elections is one of the best methods of demonstrating their support of the farmer committee system of local administration of state and federal farm programs.

\*\*\*\*\*

URGES CARE IN HOG MARKETING: Hog producers can play an important part in maintaining price levels which may make unnecessary hog price support operations this fall, Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ County PMA Committee says.

If farmers continue to market their hogs in an orderly manner, as they have during the first part of the season, price support purchases may not be necessary, and farmers will benefit from the higher prices than they might otherwise receive, Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ states. Farmers would be wise to watch their markets closely and use supply, price, and demand information to govern the rate of their marketings, he added.

The method to be used if support operations become necessary is to purchase pork products. If farmers glut the market at any one period, these purchases may not maintain the price, and in that case farmers may receive less than the support level for their hogs.

To help farmers gauge the relationship of their local markets to the support level, the Department of Agriculture has established weekly support guides. These are not support levels but can be used as the approximate level at which prices of barrows and gilts must be maintained at 7 midwest markets if farmers are to receive 90 percent of parity for their hogs. By comparing this guide level with the actual weekly average market prices at these 7 markets, farmers have a basis for weighing prices at their local markets.

The support guide for the week ended October 15 was \$17.45 per 100 pounds and this compares with an actual average market price of \$18.18. The guide for the week ended October 22 was \$17.05. By watching these figures farmers can observe the trend in their local markets. If the 7 market average is dropping too close to the weekly guide, and local market prices are showing similar weakness, farmers should hold off marketing until the price strengthens, Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ advises.

\*\*\*\*\*

CONSERVATION TEAM - FARMER AND ACP: The Agricultural Conservation Program has been provided for the use of farmers of \_\_\_\_\_ county in meeting their conservation problems, says \_\_\_\_\_, chairman of the county PMA Committee. It is available to all farmers and cooperation in it is voluntary.

Because the conservation of soil is so vital to the welfare of all the people of the Nation, he explains, ACP has been provided as a practical way of getting needed conservation practices carried out. In the first place, the Program brings to the attention of farmers the conservation practices which have been approved for each particular conservation problem. Then, through the Program, the individual farmer can obtain assistance in carrying out these practices.

This assistance, says the chairman, is in the form of financial aid. The amount of assistance varies with the urgency of getting particular practices established. But the amount - in conservation payments - averages about half the out-of-pocket cost of the practice.

In a very real and practical way the farmer who uses ACP to help him is cooperating with the rest of the people in the country in promoting the general welfare and strengthening the national security. When he carries out the ACP conservation practices on his farm, he is giving assurance to this and future generations that his farm is being protected from wind and water erosion and that the soil is being built up for continued abundant production.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ said that funds allocated to the county for conservation are intended as a means of assisting farmers in carrying out conservation practices which are most urgently needed. It has been the policy of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and those who administer this USDA conservation program to use the funds appropriated by Congress for ACP to assist farmers in carrying out conservation practices which are urgently needed and which would not be carried out without the assistance provided under the program. It was not intended for routine practices which the farmer would carry out without assistance.

\*\*\*\*\*